

[IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 16, 17, and amend 1, 4, 7, 14, 15, 18-29, 31-33, 40-42, 46, 47, 48, 53, 57, 59, 61 and 62 as follows:

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1. A computer-aided group-learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:
- [an interaction] a controller configured to
 - [generate materials on the subject to communicate to one or more users for the one or more users to work on the subject;]
 - set a duration of time for users to communicate so as to allow them to work on materials on the subject, [;]
 - start a dialogue session for users to communicate in an area related to the subject[;], and
 - stop the dialogue session approximately at or before the end of the duration of time;
 - a monitoring apparatus configured to monitor at least one user's input to the system during the dialogue session so as to have the monitored input available for analysis; and
 - wherein based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;
 - such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

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174. A computer-aided group-learning method for more than one user to work on a subject, the method comprising the steps of:
- [generating materials on the subject to communicate to one or more users for the one or more users to work on the subject;]
 - setting a duration of time for users to communicate among themselves to allow them to work on materials on the subject;
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starting a dialogue session for users to communicate in an area related to the subject; [and]

stopping the dialogue session approximately at or before the end of the duration of time; and

monitoring at least one user's input during the dialogue session so as to have the monitored input available for analysis;

wherein based on the analysis, the method further comprises the step of guiding at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;

such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

24 14. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim 1¹⁷ further comprising the step of repeating [from] the steps of [generating] setting through monitoring after the step of [stopping] monitoring.

3 15. A computer-aided group-learning system as recited in claim 1 further comprising an initializer configured to [set] identify the subject to be worked on.

25 18. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim [17]¹⁷ wherein the analysis includes analyzing one or more users' performance on the subject.

26 19. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim [17]¹⁷ wherein the analysis includes analyzing a user's interaction in the dialogue session.

29 20. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim [17]¹⁷ wherein the analysis includes analyzing the relevancy of the user's inputs.

32 21. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim [17]¹⁷ wherein the analysis includes analyzing the approach the user asks questions.

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22. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ²⁹~~20~~ wherein the analysis further includes analyzing if the user is disruptive.

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23. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ²⁵~~19~~ wherein the analysis further includes analyzing if the user dominates the dialogue session.

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24. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ²⁵~~19~~ wherein the analysis further includes analyzing the frequency of the user's inputs.

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25. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ³⁰~~22~~ wherein the analysis further includes generating a dictionary of words based on the inputs of one or more other users.

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26. A computer-aided group-learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:

[an interaction] a controller configured to

[generate materials on the subject to communicate to one or more users for the one or more users to work on the subject;]

set a duration of time for users to communicate in a dialogue session so as to allow the users to work on materials on the subject; [and]

a monitoring apparatus configured to monitor at least one user's inputs to the system during the dialogue session so as to have the monitored inputs available for analysis; and

[a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the interaction controller for analyzing the monitored inputs;]

wherein

the materials [generated] for at least one user to work on are tailored to that user based on the monitored inputs; and

wherein based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;

such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

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27.

A computer-aided group-learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:

[an interaction] a controller configured to

set a duration of time for users to communicate, [;]

start a dialogue session for users to communicate in an area related to the subject, [;] and

stop the dialogue session approximately at or before the end of the duration of time; [and]

a monitoring apparatus configured to monitor at least one user's inputs to the system during the dialogue session so as to have the monitored inputs available for analysis;

a recommendation generator configured to recommend the actions of the controller based on the inputs monitored; and

[a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the interaction controller for analyzing the monitored inputs]

wherein based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;

such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

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28.

A computer-aided group-learning system as recited in claim [2] 1 further comprising:

a recommendation generator coupled to the [interaction] controller for recommending the actions of the [interaction] controller based on the inputs monitored; and

a report generator for generating reports on each user to show what the user should work on.

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29. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim [5] ¹⁷ further comprising the steps of:

providing recommendation on [generating] materials for one or more users based on the inputs monitored; and
generating reports on each user to show what the user should work on.

34/31. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ¹⁷ further comprising: the step of restricting users who can work on the subject; and
wherein the one or more users working on the subject are existing users.

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32. A computer-aided group-learning method as recited in claim ³⁴ further comprising the step of obtaining inputs from a potential user for determining whether the potential user [may be allowed to] can join the one or more existing users to work on the subject.

48 40. A computer-aided group-learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:
a user registry for restricting [the] one or more users who can use the system;
[an interaction] a controller operatively coupled to the user registry, the controller configured to

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[generate materials on the subject to communicate to the users who can use the system to work on the subject;]

set a duration of time for users to communicate in a dialogue session so as to allow the users to work on materials on the subject; [and]

a monitoring apparatus configured to monitor at least one user's inputs to the system during the dialogue session so as to have the monitored inputs available for analysis; and

[a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the interaction controller for analyzing the monitored inputs]

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wherein based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;

such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

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41. A computer-aided learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:

a user registry for restricting one or more users who can use the system to work on the subject based on at least one user's input, who can discuss the issue of restricting with another user in a dialogue session provided by the system;

[an interaction] a controller operatively coupled to the user registry, the [interaction] controller configured to generate materials on the subject for the one or more users who can use the system to work on the subject; [and]

a monitoring apparatus configured to monitor at least one user's inputs to the system so as to have the monitored inputs available for analysis; and

[a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the interaction controller for analyzing the monitored inputs]

wherein based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time.

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42.

A computer-aided group-learning system as recited in claim [2] 1 further comprising:

a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the [interaction] controller for analyzing the monitored inputs to generate a profile of one or more users; and

a user-profile storage medium for storing the one or more users' profile.

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A computer-aided group-learning system as recited in claim 42 wherein the user-profile storage-medium is separated into a private and a public area, with the public area storing information that can be accessed by [any person] the public.

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47. A computer-aided group-learning method recited in claim [5] ¹⁷ further comprising the steps of:

analyzing the monitored inputs to generate a profile of one or more users; and
storing the one or more users' profile in a storage medium.

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48. A computer-aided group-learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:

[an interaction] a controller configured to

[generate materials on the subject to communicate to the users for them to work on the subject;]

set a duration of time for the users to communicate in a dialogue session so as to allow the users to work on materials on the subject, [;] and

monitor at least one user's inputs to the system during the dialogue session;

a performance analyzer operatively coupled to the [interaction] controller for analyzing the monitored inputs to generate a profile of one or more users; [and]

a user-profile storage medium for storing the one or more users' profile; and wherein based on the analysis by the performance analyzer, the controller guides at least one user back to the subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from the subject for a duration of time;

such that the dialogue session provides an interactive environment to help the users learn.

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a¹⁰ 49. A computer-aided group-learning system as recited in claim ¹¹ 48 wherein the [interaction] controller guides the user to take notes.

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a¹¹ 50. A computer-aided learning system for more than one user to work on a subject, the system comprising:

a notepad for a user to take notes while working on [a] the subject through the system; [and]

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[an interaction] a controller configured to
set a duration of time for users to communicate among themselves in a
dialogue session to allow them to work on materials on the subject,
monitor at least one user's input during the dialogue session so as to have
the monitored input available for analysis, and
[for generating materials on the subject for the user, and for guiding] guide
the user to take notes; and
wherein
the guidance to take notes is based on at least one of the user's inputs
when the user is working on the subject; and
based on the analysis, the controller guides at least one user back to the
subject in the dialogue session when one or more users have been distracted from
the subject for a duration of time.

a12 *53* *51*
59. A computer-aided learning system as recited in claim *51* wherein the system is
configured to allow the user to link the notes taken to [the] materials [generated by the
generator] on the subject.

55 *51*
61. A computer-aided learning system as recited in claim *51* wherein[:]
the [interaction] controller is configured to monitor the user's inputs while the
user is working on the subject[:; and
the guidance depends on the monitored inputs].

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62. A computer-aided learning method for more than one user to work on a subject,
the method comprising the steps of:
[generating materials on a subject for a user;]
allocating an area for a user to take notes; [and]
guiding the user to take notes;
setting a duration of time for users to communicate among themselves in a
dialogue session to allow them to work on materials on the subject;

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